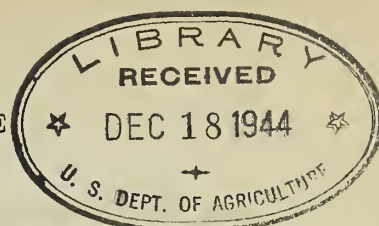


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Administration



No. 12

AMA "WAR BOARD" LETTER Wash., D.C., Mar. 9, 1942

AMA REORGANIZATION--Memoranda from Administrator Hendrickson spelling out detail of AMA reorganization expected within day or two. These will spell out consolidation of SMA, AMS, and CEA into the new over-all organization. They will also give information on personnel to head the various branches and divisions of the new AMA. Copies will be mailed you immediately.

L-L AID PRAISED as British announce plan to boost milk ration. Lord Woolton, British Food Minister recently announced that milk ration to non-priority adults probably be increased from 2 pints per week to $2\frac{1}{2}$ pints about mid-March. Added that further increase in ration will be made as soon as justified by British production, but pointed out, however, that milk supplies would not be sufficient to meet all requirements. Commenting on American assistance, Lord Woolton said: "However much we economize it will be impossible to keep up supplies of milk to the children of this country without help from the United States of America, and we are indeed greatly indebted to Mr. Wickard, the United States Minister of Agriculture, and to the people and the Government of that country, for the way in which they have enabled the people here to be cared for during this winter."

EXPANSION AID FOR DRY SKIM MILK PLANTS APPROVED: Financial assistance for the expansion of dry skim milk production in Minnesota and Wisconsin under the program announced in WB Letters of Dec. 1 and Dec. 11 was approved Mar. 4. Land O' Lakes Coop received funds to set up plants for production of spray type dry skim milk at Litchfield and Milaca, Minn. and Whitehall, Wis. In addition to construction of drying plants, the coop will receive funds to equip its creameries in areas surrounding new plants with facilities to handle whole milk (weighing and separating). The creameries after separating milk will send skim to new drying plants. It is expected that each of the three drying plants will have output of 10,000 to 15,000 lbs. dry skim per 20 hour day or a total of between 18,000,000 and 20,000,000 lbs. annually. About 10 more organizations have loans for expansion of dry skim milk production under consideration by USDA at present. Although production facilities for evaporated milk are now sufficient and cheese making facilities are nearly so, there is still need for expansion of dry skim milk production, dairy experts state.

EXPANSION OF VEGETABLE DEHYDRATION facilities throughout country in offing. Probably will be considerable. Quartermaster Corps of Army, very interested, now working closely with AMA with regard to plans leading to development of required expansion. Tentative program now under consideration by Army, Lend-Lease and USDA.

PROGRAM FOR DRY EDIBLE BEANS UNDER CONSIDERATION. Would call for further purchases dry pea beans in bags and for processing some of current crop pea beans having excess moisture into canned beans with pork, with sauce, etc. Plans are result of conference with New York and Michigan growers. Canned beans would be used for Army and L-L needs.

NOW BUYING DRY PEAS (yellow type). Invitation of offers sent out Feb. 28 calls for peas with allowance of not to exceed 15% bleach. Under Food-for-Freedom expansion of production program Department thru AMA will purchase quantities of 1942 pea crop necessary to support market at level announced Jan. 16 by Secretary Wickard. As announced, this includes only Alaska, Blue Bell, White Canada, First and Best, Alderman, Perfection, Surprise and Thomas Laxton types from whomever offered.

SOUTHERN EGG PROGRAM: Bids from refrigerated warehouses in States where program will operate have been requested by AMA. Warehouse offers to handle eggs in program will be accepted up to March 12. Program should get under way in those areas where warehouses have acceptable grading and inspection service within 2 or 3 days thereafter. Should start in other areas soon as warehouses able to secure licensed inspectors and graders. There are grading programs in all of States under program except Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. A grading school will be held at LSU, Baton Rouge, La., March 10-14 for men from these States. All States without grading service except Georgia have indicated they will send men. May be shortage of available licensed inspectors in States with grading programs but it is expected that inspectors can be trained there in short time.

SUGGESTED READING: AMA Administrator Hendrickson's speech before Northeastern Dairy Conference; potato price support program. Releases mailed WB Letter list on March 5.

AMA REPRESENTATIVES ON USDA WAR BOARDS: Queries or needs for spot information may be sent directly to Administrator Hendrickson, AMA, Washington, D.C.